8659174/2024/VIG-VI-PRR01

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public services - Surprise Check conducted by Anti Corruption Bureau officials in the O/o Executive Engineer, RWS&S (P) Division, Vijayawada on 11.01.2021 - Departmental Proceedings against Smt. Merugu Sravanti, Assistant Executive Engineer, RWS&S Sub-Division (P), Vijayawada under the provisions of Rule 20 of AP Civil Services(CCA) Rules, 1991 - Articles of Charge – Issued

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PANCHAYAT RAJ & RURAL DEVELOPMENT (VIG.VI) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No. 183

Date : 26/02/2024

Read the following:-

1. Radio Message, dt:12.01.2021 from the Addl.SP , ACB, Vijayawada Range, Krishna Dist.
2. Govt. Memo. No.1332739/Vig.VI/2021, dt:10.08.2021.
3. From the DG, ACB Rc No. 03/DES-VK1/2021-S9, dt:06.04.2023.

Order :-

It is proposed to hold an inquiry against Smt. Merugu Sravanti, Assistant Executive Engineer, RWS&S Sub-Division (P), Vijayawada in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 20 of the APCS (CCA) Rules, 1991.

2. The substance of the imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour in respect of which the inquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statement of articles of charge (Annexure-I). A statement of the imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour in support of each article of charge is enclosed (Annexure-II). A list of documents by which, and a list of witnesses by whom, the articles of charge are proposed to be sustained are also enclosed (Annexure-III and IV).

3. Smt. Merugu Sravanti, Assistant Executive Engineer, RWS&S Sub-Division (P), Vijayawada is directed to submit within 10 days of the receipt of this Memorandum a written statement of her defence.

4. She is informed that an inquiry will be held only in respect of those articles of charge as are not admitted. She should, therefore specifically admit or deny each article of charge.

5. Smt. Merugu Sravanti, Assistant Executive Engineer, RWS&S Sub-Division (P), Vijayawada is further informed that if she does not submit her written statement of defence on or before the date specified in para 3 above, or does not appear in person before the inquiring authority or otherwise fails or refuses to comply with the provisions of Rules 20 of the APCS (CCA) Rules, 1991, or the orders/directions issued in pursuance of the said rules, the inquiring authority may hold the inquiry against her exparte, based on the material available on record.

6. Attention of Smt. Merugu Sravanti, Assistant Executive Engineer, RWS&S Sub-Division (P), Vijayawada is invited to Rule 24 of the A.P. Civil Services (Conduct) Rules 1964, under which no Government Servant shall being or attempt to bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further her interests in respect of matters pertaining to

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her service under the Government. If any representation is received on her behalf from any person in respect of any matter dealt within these Proceedings, it will be presumed that Smt. Merugu Sravanti, Assistant Executive Engineer, RWS&S Sub-Division (P), Vijayawada is aware of such a representation and that it has been made at her instance and action will be taken against her for violation of Rule 24 of the A.P. Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

7. The receipt of the proceedings shall be acknowledged along with Annexure-I, II, III & IV.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

B RAJSEKHAR
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
Smt. Merugu Sravanti, Assistant Executive Engineer, RWS&S Sub-Division (P), Vijayawada (w.e) through the Engineer-in- Chief, RWS&S, Vijayawada.
The Engineer-in-Chief, Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Department, Vijayawada (with a request to serve the Charged Officer with dated acknowledgement and send the same for record)

Copy to
The PR&RD(Est.II) Dept.
The Director General, Anti Corruption Bureau,, AP., Vijayawada.
The Secretary to Vigilance Commission, APVC, Velagapudi.

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER

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ANNEXURE–I

STATEMENT OF ARTICLES OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SMT. MERUGU SRAVANTHI, ASST. EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, RWS&S (P) division Vijayawada

That **Smt. Merugu Sravanthi** (hereinafter referred as Government Servant (GS)) worked as Asst. Executive Engineer, RWS & S Division, Vijayawada from 17.07.2019 to 11.01.2021, while working as Asst. Executive Engineer, RWS & S Division, Vijayawada, she committed grave misconduct in as much as.

CHARGE:

The Government Servant, failed to maintain properly the Administrative Sanction Registers. She has not updated the Register for the years 2018-2019 and 2019-2020.

Thus, the Government Servant Smt. Merugu Sravanthi, Assistant Executive Engineer, RWS & S Division, Vijayawada by his above-mentioned acts has exhibited a lack of integrity, devotion to duty, and conduct unbecoming of a Government Servant, showed gross negligence and thereby violated/ contravened the AP Public works Department codes and AP Public Accounts Department codes and violated/ contravened Rule 3 (1), 3 (2) & of A.P. Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

B RAJSEKHAR
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

SECTION OFFICER

(Contd.P-4)

ANNEXURE–II

STATEMENT OF IMPUTATION OF MISCONDUCT OR MISBEHAVIOR IN SUPPORT OF THE ARTICLES OF CHARGES FRAMED AGAINST SMT. MERUGU SRAVANTHI, ASST. EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, RWS&S (P) DIVISION, VIJAYAWADA

That **Smt. Merugu Sravanthi** (hereinafter referred as Government Servant (GS)) worked as Asst. Executive Engineer, RWS & S Division, Vijayawada from 17.07.2019 to 11.01.2021. Her date of birth is 09.08.1978. She entered into Government service as Assistant Executive Engineer on 20.12.2010. She will retire from service on 31.08.2040.

CHARGE:

The Government. Servant, failed to maintain properly the Administrative Sanction Registers. She has not updated the Register for the years 2018-2019 and 2019-2020.

FACTS AND EVIDENCE:-

On credible information that the officials of the office of the Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply & Sanitation, Project Division, Vijayawada, are indulging in corrupt practices and not maintaining records properly, a surprise check was conducted on 11-01-2021 from 12.00 hrs, to 23.30 hrs, on the office of Executive Engineer, RWS&S, (P) Division, Vijayawada, by the DSPs, ACB., Vijayawada Range, Vijayawada, their staff along with the two official mediators, namely, 1) Sri Kancherla Ambedkar, Assistant Audit Officer and 2) Sri Pulapaka Vijaya Bhaskara Rao, Senior Auditor, O/o the Asst. Audit Officer, State Audit (MPP), Machilipatnam, Krishna District.

The following officials were present at the time of the surprise check in the O/o Executive Engineer, RWS & S, Project Division, Vijayawada.

EMPLOYEES:

1. Sri Potharlanka Ramakrishna, Superintendent Establishment & Works.
2. Sri K. Nochan Kumar S/o K. Eeswara Rao, Jr. Assistant, Account Branch.
3. Sri Thokala Raghu, S/o T. Ramalingaiah, 40 Yrs, Office Sub-Ordinate.
4. Smt. Gottiparthi Lakshmi W/o G.Sriramulu, 58 Yrs, Helper.
5. Smt. Kosanam Rajya Lakshmi W/o K.Bose Babu, 37 Yrs, Dispatch Clerk.
6. Sri Buluguri Atchaiah S/o Muttaiah, 58 Yrs, Office Sub-Ordinate.
7. Smt. Kolli Anitha W/o Somasekhara Rao, 57 Yrs, Senior Assistant R/o Vijayawada.
8. Sri Yeruva Anil Kumar Reddy S/o Govinda Reddy, 35 YRs, Typist.
9. Sri Arepalli Venkata Naga Saritha, Site Engineer (Contract Basis).
10. Sri Yalagandula Sunith Kumar S/o Venkata Ramana, 31 Yrs, DEO.
11. Kum. Tolapu Bharathi D/o Mahesh, 30 Yrs, DEO.
12. Smt. Kurapati Ramadevi W/o Ravikumar, 45 Yrs.
13. Sri Vanguru Yakshith S/o Devadas, 23 Yrs, DEO.

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14. Smt. Merugu Sravanthi W/o Krishnarao, 42 Yrs, Assistant Executive Engineer.
15. Smt. Kathirisetti Sujatha W/o Satish Babu, 38 Yrs, Assistant Executive Engineer.

In addition to the above staff, it is identified that the below mentioned persons who are also employees of RWS & S are also present in the office premises and the details of them are as follows;

1. Sri Sole Ravikanth S/o Rajarao, 43 Yrs, Office Sub-Ordinate, RWS&S, SE Circle Office, Vijayawada.
2. Sri Nimmakuri Krishna Kishore S/o late Nagabhushanam, 52 Yrs, Assistant Executive Engineer, RWS&S, Kanchikacherla Mandal
3. Sri Gugulothu Gobriya S/o Rekhaiah, 50 Yrs, Junior Technical Officer, RWS&S, Tiruvuru.

Then the Inspector asked the office superintendent about the Executive Engineer who is the incharge of the office. Then he stated that Sri D.Sainath is the Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply & Sanitation, Project Division, Vijayawada, he is on Casual Leave on 11.01.2021, 12.01.2021 and permission on 9th, 10th, 13th to 15th January, 2021 and he has obtained CL from Engineer-in-Chief, to go to Delhi on his personal work. Then the Inspector asked the office Superintendent about the incharge of EE, then he stated that the Engineer in Chief has allotted as incharge to this office. Then the Inspector asked the office Supdt. Who is the next 2nd-level officer in the office? Then the Superintendent stated that the Manager/Divisional Accounts Officer Sri B.Srinivasa Rao is on ELFP from 01.10.2020 to 30.11.2020 and further he did not return to the office. At present Sri Bellamkonda Srinivasa Vara Prasad, DAO, Panchayat Raj Division, Vijayawada is the incharge DAO to the O/o EE, RWS & S. Then the Inspector requested to make a call to i/c DAO to attend the O/o EE, RWS & S, Project Division, Vijayawada. After a few minutes, the Superintendent who made a call to i/c DAO informed that the i/c DAO is on C.L. for 11.01.2021. The Inspector also enquired about Superintending Engineer and it is learned that Sri D. Sainath, Executive Engineer, RWS & S, Project Division is the in-charge of SE, RWS & S, Circle Vijayawada.

In the meantime, two persons entered into the O/o EE, RWS & S, Project Division, Vijayawada and when the Inspector asked them, they stated that they are the contractors of RWS & S works. Then the Inspector asked them about their arrival at that time, then they stated that they came to the office to consult the EE, about their pending bills, further the Inspector requested them to express their opinion over the performance of the employees of the O/o EE, RWS & S, Project Division and recorded their statements in detail.

Sri Garapati Surya Kiran Kumar S/o Dasaradha Ramaiah, 45 Yrs, R/o Vibha Pride Apartments, Gandigunta (V), Vuyyuru Mandal, Krishna District:

On examination, he stated that for about 15 years he is doing contract works for RWS & S, Panchayatraj, Medical & Health Departments etc, He is a Registered Contractor for Class-II and Class-III. During the year 2018, he took one contract work under an agreement value of Rs.28 Lakhs in Kothuru Tadepalli (V), Vijayawada Rural Mandal from RWS&S,

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Vijayawada. But, the officials of RWS & S officials without any sanction order got executed the work in the year 2017 by one Sri B.Ramanjaneyulu, who is the contractor of Ongole. The officials endorsed the same work to him at the end of the year 2018 by showing the same as another work. Later Sri D. Sainath, EE, RWS & S, sanctioned the amount by changing the nature of work and forced him to pay the same to Sri B.Ramanjaneyulu. During the process of payment for the work done in the year 2017, recorded 6 invoices pertaining to HDPE pipes and got check measurements as well as super check. Actually, the material was purchased during the time of VAT but they showed the same bills as purchased during SGST time. They entered the invoice bills in the M-Book by mentioning the date and month only with mentioning the year and did not pay the contract bills to him, due to which he incurred a loss of 18% input and further the officials failed to pay the CGST and SGST, due to which he incurred a loss of Rs.2 Lakhs. Later the officials issued an experience certificate to him after completion of the work. Further, the officials have to pay the Entrustment of Money Deposit and Further Security Deposit to him, but even though he presented written representation the officials did not pay the amount of about Rs.1,30,000/- to him. When he asked Sri D. Sainath, EE, he threatened him that he will file cases against him. Further, he stated the EE took Rs.10 Lakhs as a bribe from Sri B.Ramanjaneyulu and the same amount was transferred through the online SBI account of another Movva Subhakar, later the EE got transferred the said amount to the accounts of his family members and himself.

During the year 2019-2020, he completed contract work in Gangivani Malapalli of Mopidevi (M), which was allotted to him and submitted the bills for Rs. 43 Lakhs, but in those bills, the officials made part of the payment and failed to pay the remaining amount of Rs.6.5 Lakhs. The officials have to upload the bill in CFMS after passing the order, but the EE got returned the bill from CFMS on the plea that he had no labour license. When he consulted the EE and SE and requested them to issue a pass order, they threatened him and EE, abused him in filthy language. Further, he had no information about the payment of CGST and SGST by the officials to the above said bills and the officials demanded 5% of the amount as a bribe.

Further, he did the contract works in the year 2018-2019 in Jeelagalagandi (V) of Ghantasala (M) for Rs.60 Lakhs and he completed the work about 40% within the stipulated time. But the officials paid part of the amount only. When he is requesting the officials about the remaining payment, the EE demands 12% of the remaining amount as a bribe. As he refused to give the bribe amount the officials recommended him for black list. When he requested the EE to pay the remaining balance amount of his contract works he demanded 15% of the pending amount etc, facts.

Sri Movva Subhakar S/o Hemadri Rao, aged 49 Yrs, R/o D.No.6-123/C, near Hanuman Temple, Nidamanuru (V), Vijayawada Rural Mandal:

On examination, he stated that he is doing contract works of RWS & S for about 8 years, and he had a Class-IV contractor license. During the year 2018, he did RWS & S Division Office renovation works on a quotation basis and the officials made payments through cheques to him.

The details of cheques and payments are

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1) Cheque No. 656824 of SBI for Rs. 5,32,288/- dt:09-08-2018
2) Cheque No. 642198 of SBI for Rs. 50,600/- dt:09-09-2018
3) Cheque No. 566559 of SBI for Rs. 68,700/- dt:09-09-2018
4) Cheque No. 566557 of SBI for Rs. 45,020/- dt:10-09-2018

When he requested the officials to give GST, and IT challans they are not giving the same. In the year 2020 he got allotted the work at Damuluru (V) Ibrahimpatnam Mandal through a nomination basis for Rs.4,30,000/-and made payment through CFMS. But when he is requesting to return the EMD amount of Rs.10,700/- they are not paying the same and the EE demanding 5% as a bribe.

Later he did contract work for RO Plant and shed at Kachavaram (V) of Ibrahimpatnam (M) and completed the work in time and the EE, not paying the amount of Rs.6,48,000/- and demanding 5 % of the amount as a bribe. Further, he has given an amount of Rs. 7 Lakhs as a hand loan through an online transaction to the EE for the purchase of a villa near Kamineni Hospital and he came to know that the market value of the villa is about Rs.3 Crores.

The Inspector asked the Jr. Asst. K. Nochan Kumar to produce the above 4 vouchers along with Cash Book. The Jr. Asst. produced the above 4 vouchers along with Cash Book. One of us verified the above and found the following lapses.

1) Cheque No. 656824 of SBI for Rs. 5,32,288/- dt. 28-07-2018

It is observed that the amount was paid towards the purchase of a new system for implementation of e-office/ CFMS etc. vide bill no. VJA1819/12212, dt. 28-07-2018, CGST and SGST were paid to the contractor as per the Voucher produced by him. Whereas Income Tax was not deducted from the contractor. An amount of Rs. 5,322/- is to be deducted as Income Tax which is the loss to the Government.

2) Cheque No. 642198 of SBI for Rs. 50,600/- dt. 18-08-2018

It is observed that the amount was paid towards the purchase of Birla Care Putti in RWS & S (P) Division, Vijayawada vide voucher 25 dt.18-08-2018, CGST and SGST were not paid due to the implementation of GST TDS from 01-10-2018 whereas Income Tax was not deducted from the contractor. An amount of Rs. 506/- is to be deducted as Income Tax which is the loss to the Government.

3) Cheque No. 566559 of SBI for Rs. 68,700/- dt. 27-08-2018

It is observed that the amount was paid towards the purchase of Labour Charges of Renovation in RWS & S (P), Vijayawada vide Voucher No. 07 of 18-19 dt. 27-08-2018, CGST and SGST were not paid due to the implementation of GST TDS from 01-10-2018 whereas Income Tax was not deducted from the contractor. An amount of Rs. 687/- is to be deducted as Income Tax which is loss to the Government.

4) Cheque No. 566557 of SBI for Rs. 45,020/- dt. 21-08-2018

It is observed that the amount was paid towards the purchase of

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Painting materials in RWS & S (P) Division, Vijayawada vide Voucher No. 05 of 18-19 dt. 21-08-2018, CGST and SGST were not paid due to the implementation of GST TDS from 01-10-2018 whereas Income Tax was not deducted from the contractor. An amount of Rs.450/- is to be deducted as Income Tax which is loss to the Government.

On verification it is observed that Sri M. Subhakar was entrusted a work by the name "Replacement of Drinking water pipeline in SC area segment of Damuluru Village, Ibrahimpatnam Mandal, the estimated value was Rs. 4,78,937/-.

While awarding the work to the contractor, the contractor deposited Rs. 10,700/- as EMD (Earnest Money Deposit) vide DD. No. 335581, dt. 06-05-2020. While verification deposit Register AC No. 31643002610, page no. 30 dt. 06-06-2020 After completion of the work the final Bill made with a 5% deduction was in respect of EMD and FSD (Further Security Deposit). But EMD was already deposited while awarding the work. So it is found that EMD was deducted twice. The same was pointed out by the contractor and represented on 22-06-2020 to refund the EMD of Rs. 10,700/-. But till date the refund was not made good to the contractor. It is concluded that the delay of payment was observed.

The Inspector seized the Cash Books 1) 20040108101-SBI Bhaskara Raopeta T.S.C. General O/o Executive Engineer, RWS & S Dept (P) Division, Vijayawada 2) Deposits A/C No. 31643002610 Register,

Then the Inspector asked the office Superintendent, to produce the office job chart and to produce the office records. Then the Superintendent stated that there is no job chart in the office and only office orders were issued to the Accounts branch 1) Sri T.Srinivasa Rao, Senior Assistant, 2) Smt. K. Anitha, Senior Assistant, 3) Sri Nochan Kumar, Junior Assistant and a separate office order was issued to the drawing branch 1) Smt. M.Sravanthi, AEE, 2) Smt. K.Sujatha, AEE, 3) Smt. AVN Saritha, Site Engineer and produced the same before the Inspector. Then the Inspector seized the office orders in the presence of mediators.

When requested Smt. M.Sravanthi, AEE to produce the records being maintained by her, she produced the registers as follows;

1) **Tender Register**: Being Maintained
2) **Technical Sanction Register**: Being maintained.
3) **Agreement Register**: Being maintained.

Further, she is requested to produce the tenders of different works from the year 2015 to till date, it is observed that the calling of different tenders are as follows;

Year	`No.of total works called for tenders	Tenders not received	No.of tenders cancelled	Tenders settled
2015-16	28	2	3	23
2016-17	42	7	--	35
2017-18	163	139	1	23
2018-19	37	12	4	21
2019-20	33	5	19	9
2020-21 (till date)	19	2	10	7

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When observing the cancelled tenders, the authorities cancelled the 13-tenders without specific remarks and only stated that the contracts were cancelled due to administrative grounds. Then the Inspector seized the following 13- files which were the cancelled tenders in the presence of mediators for further enquiry.

S.No.	Name of the Work	Estimation Cost	No.of Sheets
1.	O&M of CPWs scheme to Khabampadu and other habitations for the year 2018-19	Rs. 30 Lakhs	39
2.	O&M of CPWs scheme to Lingala and other habitations for the year 2018-19	Rs. 20 Lakhs	41
3.	O&M of CPWs scheme to Polampalli and other habitations for the year 2018-19	Rs. 13 Lakhs	14
4.	O&M of CPWs scheme to kollikulla and other habitations for the year 2018-19	Rs. 47 Lakhs	43
5.	O&M of CPWs scheme to SN palem and other habitations for the year 2019-20	Rs. 44 Lakhs	31
6.	O&M of CPWs scheme to takkellapadu and other habitations for the year 2019-20	Rs. 19 Lakhs	40
7.	O&M of CPWs scheme to Malkapuram and other habitations for the year 2019-20	Rs. 31 Lakhs	61
8.	O&M of CPWs scheme to Indupalli and other habitations for the year 2019-20	Rs. 36 Lakhs	103
9.	O&M of CPWS scheme to SN palem and 8 other habitations for the year 2020-21	Rs. 44 Lakhs	06
10.	O&M of CPWS scheme to malkapuram and 2 other habitations for the year 2020-21	Rs. 32 Lakhs	101
11.	O&M of CPWS scheme tot Indugupalli and other habitations for he year 2020-21	Rs. 38 Lakhs	53
12.	O&M of CPWS scheme to Khambampadu and 14 other habitations for the year 2020-21	Rs. 46 Lakhs	81
13.	O&M of CPWS scheme to polampalli and 3 other habitations for the year 2020-21	Rs. 22 Lakhs	61

On perusal of the above tenders, it is observed that the Executive Engineer, RWS & S(P) Division, Vijayawada has not invited an e-tender for certain works, costing more than 5.00 Lakhs.

The Inspector asked the Office Superintendent to produce the records of the Accounts Branch. Then the Superintendent stated that Sri K.Nochan Kumar did not hand over the charge to him and the Superintendent Charge is at present with Sri K.Nochan Kumar, Junior Assistant. Then the Inspector requested Sri K.Nochan Kumar, Junior Assistant to produce the records. Then the Inspector randomly verified the following records.

INSPECTION REPORTS OF THE SE, RWS & S, CIRCLE, VIJAYAWADA:

i. ACCOUNTS BRANCH: On perusal of the inspection reports of 2018-19, and 2019-20, the then Superintending Engineer, RWS & S Circle, Vijayawada in his observation mentioned that the Executive

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Engineer, RWS & S (P) Division, Vijayawada has made payment for 5-Data Entry Operators as against the permission accorded for 2-Data Entry Operators to the Division Office. As per Proceeding No. RWS-Budget/2012, Dt.21.05.2012 of the SO & Engineer in Chief, RWS & S, Hyderabad has accorded permission for 2 Nos. of data entry operators only to the division office. But during the surprise check it is observed that as on date 4-Data entry operators (1) K.Ramadevi, 2), T.Bharathi, 3) Y.Snith Kumar and 4) V.Yakshith are still working in the O/o EE, RWS & S, Project Division as Data Entry Operators.

ii. **Drawing Branch:** It is mentioned by the SE, RWS & S Circle, Vijayawada, that the Executive Engineer, RWS & S(P) Division, Vijayawada has not invited an e-tender for certain works, costing more than 5.00 Lakhs.

Then the Inspector seized the copies of the above inspection reports for further enquiry in the presence of mediators.

Then the Inspector secured the presence of the following staff members who are present during the surprise check and examined them.

1. **Sri Potharlanka Ramakrishna:** He joined on 16.12.2020 as Supdt. In O/o Executive Engineer, RWS & S Division, Vijayawada but Sri K. Nochan Kumar Jr. Asst not handed over the Supdt. Charge to him till now.

2. **Sri K. Nochan Kumar:** He failed to hand over the Supdt. Charge to Sri Potharlanka Ramakrishna, even though he reported to the office as Superintendent on 16.12.2020.

3. **Smt. Kosanam Rajya Lakshmi**:
On examination, she stated that, since 13.01.2020 she has been working as a typist in the O/o EE, RWS & S, Project Division, Vijayawada and she was selected on compensative grounds. Now she is doing the work of dispatch clerk as per the instructions of EE, RWS & S, Project Division, Vijayawada. As a dispatch clerk, she has been maintaining the inward register, local tappal register, outward register, RTI register, M-Book register, stamp account register, Regd. Post register etc, facts. When the ACB officials got searched she has Rs.1,010/- as against she declared Rs.1,046 in the personal cash register etc, facts.

4. **Sri Arepalli Venkata Naga Saritha**:
On examination, she stated that in the year 2007 she was selected as a site engineer on a contract basis in RWS & S Department. Since 2017 she has been working in the O/o EE, RWS & S, Project Division, Vijayawada. As a site engineer she is doing the work of issuing technical sanctions to the estimations that came from the sub-division office by verifying the estimations of Nuzvid, Tiruvuru, and Vijayawada since October 2020, before that she is acting as assistant to AEEs. She is not maintaining any records, she further doing the work of the tender agreement process, supplementary agreement process, daily reports, weekly reports etc, facts. When the ACB officials got searched her, she owns Rs.360/- and she had not entered the same in personal

5. Sri Yalagandula Sunith Kumar:
On examination, he stated that he has been working as DEO in the

(Contd.P-11)

O/o EE, RWS & S, Vijayawada, Project Division since 01.08.2020. He is used to uploading the work bills online in MGNREGS pertaining to drainage works which were received from sub-divisions and after online he used to return the bills to the concerned. He further maintains the registers of sand and cement etc, facts. When ACB officials searched him, he owns Rs.310/-, and he did not enter the same in personal cash register etc, facts.

6. **Kum. Tolapu Bharathi**:

On examination she stated that she has been working as DEO in the O/o EE, RWS & S, Project Division, Vijayawada since 2012 and she is doing the work as per the instructions and close supervision of Smt. Sujatha, AEE of the O/o RWS & S, Project Division, Vijayawada. She is not maintaining any records and used to upload the work bills and salary bills in online etc, facts.

7. **Smt. Kurapati Ramadevi**:

On examination, she stated that she has been working as DEO in the O/o EE. RWS & S. Project Division, Vijayawada since 2008. She also doing the work as per the instructions and close supervision of Smt. Sujatha, AEE of their office. When the ACB officials got searched, she owns Rs.310/- and the same was not entered in the personal cash register etc, facts.

8. **Sri Vanguru Yakshith**:

On examination, he stated that he has been working as DEO in the O/o EE, RWS & S, Project Division, Vijayawada since September 2020. He is doing the work of downloading the mails which were received to this office from 7-Sub-Divisions and used to prepare them in proper format and sending the same to the circle office and other works allotted by the EE, RWS & S etc, facts. When the ACB officials searched him, he owns Rs.4,000/- and when questioned about having in possession of Rs.4,000/- he stated that he have to pay the same as the joining fee to his PG course in SRR college etc, facts.

9. **Smt. Merugu Sravanthi**:

On examination, she stated that she enlisted as AEE in the year 2010 in RWS & S Department and since July 2019 she is working in the O/o EE, RWS & S, Project Division, Vijayawada. She is doing the work of bills verification of drawing section, estimation records and also seeing the file which were allotted to her by her superiors etc, facts. She further stated that since December 2018, there are certain limits were issued by the Govt. of AP to call on the tenders on the E-procurement platform. On perusal of the records by the ACB officials, they found that the following tenders were called on through open tender and E-tenders.

Sl.No	Name of the Work	Estimate cost	e-tenders/Open tenders	Estimate contract value
2019-20				
1.	Providing RO plant at Pedda Thanda of A.Konduru mandal	5.30	open tenders	442615.63
2.	Providing RO plant at venkata thanda of A.Konduru mandal	5.30	open tenders	442682.21

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3.	Providing RO plant at Metta Thanda H/o Madhavaram of A.Konduru mandal	5.90	open tenders	501811.25
4.	Providing RO plant at Gollamandala thanda of A.Konduru mandal	5.30	open tenders	443672.66
5.	Providing RO plant at A.Konduru of A.Konduru mandal	5.90	open tenders	502183.29
6.	O&M of CPWS scheme to SN palem and other habitations	44.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
7.	O&M of CPWS scheme to Adaviravulapadu and other habitations	40.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
8.	O&M of CPWS scheme to Takkellapadu and other habitations	19.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
9.	O&M of CPWS scheme to Malkapuram and other habitations	31.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
10.	O&M of CPWS scheme to Lingala and other habitations	32.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
11.	O&M of CPWS scheme to Indugupalli and other habitations	36.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
12.	O&M of CPWS scheme to Khambampadu and other habitations	45.00	e-tenders	291299
13.	O&M of CPWS scheme to Polampalli and other habitations	21.00	e-tenders	125232
14.	O&M of CPWS scheme to Gouravaram and other habitations	32.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
15.	O&M of CPWS scheme to SN palem and other habitations	44.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
16.	O&M of CPWS scheme to Adaviravulapadu and other habitations	40.00	e-tenders	287685
17.	O&M of CPWS scheme to Malkapuram and other habitations	31.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
18.	O&M of CPWS scheme to Lingala and other habitations	32.00	e-tenders	123365
19.	O&M of CPWS scheme to Indugupalli and other habitations	36.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
20.	Augmentation of pws in mukteswarapuram of jaggaiahpeta (M)	30.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
21.	Construction of 60 KL OHSR in gouravaram (v) Jaggaiahpeta (M)	30.00	e-tenders	Cancelled

(Contd.P-13)

22.	Providing new PWSS to Telaprolu SCL H/o Telaprolu village of Unguturu (M)	30.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
23.	Providing CI pipeline across Polavaram canal to CPWSS at Tempalli village of gannavaram (M)	20.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
24.	Providing OHSR to damuluru (V) in Nandigama (M)	20.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
25.	Augmentation of SVS at sc locality of Vatsavai (V&M)	7.00	open tenders	Cancelled
26.	Providing MPWS to muralipuram H/o Tippanagunta (v) of bapulapadu (M)	10.00	open tenders	Cancelled
27.	Augmentation of PWSS in Muktheswara Puram of Jaggaiahpeta (M)	30.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
28.	Construction of 60 KL OHSR in gouravaram village of Jaggaiahpeta (M)	30.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
29.	Providing new PWSS to telaprolu SCL H/o Telaprolu village of Unguturu (M)	30.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
30.	Providing CI pipeline across polavaram canal to cpwss at tempalli village of gannavaram mandal	20.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
31.	Providing OHSR to damuluru village in nandigama (M)	20.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
32.	Augmentation of SVS at sc locality of Vatsavai (V&M)	7.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
33.	Providing MPWS to muralipuram H/o Tippanagunta village of bapulapadu (M)	10.00	open tenders	782142.45
2020-21				
1.	Providing RO plant at NTR colony at Kachavaram village of Ibrahimpatnam (M)	7.00	open tenders	670204.71
2.	Augmentation of SVS at sc locality of Vatsavai (V&M)	7.00	open tenders	644801
3.	Augmentation of PWSS at Musunuru village of Musunuru (M)	6.00	open tenders	Cancelled
4.	Providing pumping main for direct pumping scheme at west side of prabhunagar of poranki GP of Penamaluru (M)	10.00	open tenders	923649.53
5.	Augmentation of PWSS in Muktheswara Puram Of Jaggaiahpeta Mandal	30.00	open tenders	Cancelled

(Contd.P-14)

6	Construction of 60 KL OHSR in Gouravaram Village Of Jaggaiahpeta Mandal	30.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
7.	Providing new PWSS to telaprolu SCL H/o Telaprolu village of Unguturu (M)	30.00	e-tenders	2263172.11
8.	Providing CI pipeline across polavaram canal to CPWSS AT tempalli village of Gannavaram Mandal	20.00	e-tenders	1434627.95
9	Providing OHSR to damuluru village in nandigama mandal	20.00	e-tenders	Cancelled
10	Augmentation of PWSS in Musunuru Village Of Musunuru Mandal	6.00	open tenders	Cancelled
11	Augmentation of PWSS In Musunuru Village Of Musunuru Mandal	6.00	open tenders	519161.47
12	Restoration of CPWS scheme to lingala and other habitations in vatsavai	10.00	open tenders	904084.53
13	Restoration of CPWS scheme to kollikulla and other habitations in penuganchiprolu	10.00	open tenders	849944
14	Restoration of CPWS scheme to lingala and other habitations in vatsavai mandal	12.00	e-tenders	986745.32
15	O&M of CPWS scheme to SN palem and 8 other habitations for the year 2020-21	44	e-tenders	Cancelled
16	O&M of CPWS scheme to malkapuram and 2 other habitations for the year 2020-21	32	e-tenders	Cancelled
17	O&M of CPWS Scheme to Indugupalli and other habitations for he year 2020-21	38	e-tenders	Cancelled
18	O&M of CPWS scheme to Khambampadu and 14 other habitations for the year 2020-21	46	e-tenders	Cancelled
19	O&M of CPWS scheme to polampalli and 3 other habitations for the year 2020-21	22	e-tenders	Cancelled

(Contd.P-15)

When the ACB officials got searched for her, she owns Rs.1,780/- and she did not enter the same in the personal cash register, etc, facts.

During the investigation, the investigating officer examined the following witnesses and recorded their statements as follows.

1. **Sri Kancherla Ambedkar, S/o K. Bhaskara Rao, 53 years, Assistant Audit Officer, O/o the Asst. Audit Officer, State Audit (MPP), Machilipatnam, Krishna District. (Mediator-I).**

He speaks about their presence as mediators and the things that happened during the Surprise Check in the O/o RWS & S, Gudivada Division, Krishna Dist, i.e., on 11.01.2021 etc. facts.

2. **Sri Pulapaka Vijaya Bhaskara Rao, S/o Ranga Rao, 54 years, Senior Auditor, O/o the Asst. Audit Officer, State Audit (MPP), Machilipatnam, Krishna District. (Mediator-II).**

He speaks about their presence as mediators and the things that happened during the Surprise Check in the O/o RWS & S, Gudivada Division, Krishna Dist, i.e., on 11.01.2021, etc. facts.

3. **Statement of Sri D. Venkata Ramana S/o DVS Narayana, age 58 yrs, Superintendent Engineer, RWS & S, Vijayawada Circle.**

He is working as Superintendent Engineer, RWS & S, Krishna Circle since 22.8.2022. as per the request of ACB officials today he attended the office of DSP, ACB, Vijayawada, and stated the following contents regarding to the surprise check proceedings dated 11.01.2021 of ACB, Vijayawada on O/o Executive Engineer, Rural water supply & sanitation, Project Division, Vijayawada.

On perusal of the records it is observed that Administrative Sanction Register is not updated for the years 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 by the Govt. Servant Smt. Merugu Sravanthi, Asst. Executive Engineer, Drawing Branch, O/o EE, RWS, Vijayawada Division.

4. **Statement of Sri Dhavaleswarapu Rama Linga Prasad S/o Veerabhadraiah, age 57 yrs, Executive Engineer, RWS & S (Projects) Division, Vijayawada, R/o Rythupeta, Nandigama, NTR Dist. Cell No. 9440147970.**

On examination, he stated that he is working as Executive Engineer, Engineer, RWS & S, Vijayawada Division (Project) since 01.08.2021. He stated that the contents regarding the surprise check proceedings dated 11.01.2021 of ACB, Vijayawada on O/o Executive Engineer, Rural water supply & sanitation, Project Division, Vijayawada. **He further corroborated LW. 3, Sri D.V. Ramana, Superintending Engineer in all the procedural aspects and material aspects.**

5. **Statement of Sri Shaik Hussein Saheb S/o Masthan Saheb, age 53 yrs, Divisional Accounts officer (works) O/o Executive Engineer, Panchayath Raj & Rural Development, Vijayawada Division.**

(Contd.P-16)

He further corroborated LW. 3, Sri D.V. Ramana, Superintending Engineer in all the procedural aspects and material aspects.

Thus the Govt. Servant, failed to maintain properly the Administrative Sanction Registers. She has not updated the Register for the years 2018-2019 and 2019-2020

The Government Servant Smt. Merugu Sravanthi by her above-mentioned acts has exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to duty and conduct unbecoming of a Government Servant placing him on his defence before the Commissioner of Inquiries for violation/ contravened Rule 3 (1), 3 (2) of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964 and for violation/ contravened the AP Public works Department codes and AP Public Accounts Department codes.

The Government Servant has therefore rendered herself liable for regular Departmental action for a major penalty.

B RAJSEKHAR
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

SECTION OFFICER

(Contd.P-17)

ANNEXURE-III

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

The following documentary evidence is available on record.

1.	**Surprise Check Proceedings** conducted on **11.01.2021** at O/o Executive Engineer, RWS & S, Vijayawada Division.	It was drafted by the independent official mediators and shows the facts that were taken place during the Surprise Check and seizure of registers and documents at the O/o Executive Engineer, RWS & S, Gudivada Division.
2.	Administrative Sanction Registers:	It shows that it was not updated for the years 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 by Govt. servant Smt Merugu Sravanthi, Asst. Executive Engineer, Drawing Branch, O/o EE, RWS, Vijayawada Division.
3.	Lr.No. A1/ ACB/Service Particulars /2020 dt 25.01.2021 of S.E, RWS & S Circle, Vijayawada and Lr. Rc.No. A1/SE/RWS & S/2022 Dt. 18.01.2023 of SE, RWS & S Circle, Vijayawada	It disclosed the Job chart of the officials/SOs of SE and the O/o EE, RWS & S Division Gudivada
4.	Signed Statement of Sri D.Venkata Ramana S/o DVS Narayana, age 58 yrs, Superintendent Engineer, RWS & S, Vijayawada Circle,	It discloses the Smt. Merugu Sravanthi failure to maintain properly the Administrative Sanction Registers and not updated the Register for the years 2018-2019 and 2019-2020.
5.	Signed Statement of Sri Dhavaleswarapu Rama Linga Prasad S/o Veerabhadraiah, age 57 yrs, Executive Engineer, RWS & S (Projects) Division, Vijayawada, R/o Rythupeta, Nandigama, NTR Dist. Cell No. 9440147970.	He corroborates LW.3 in all aspects
6.	Signed Statement of Sri Shaik Hussein Saheb S/o Masthan Saheb, age 53 yrs, Divisional Accounts officer (works) O/o Executive Engineer, Panchayath Raj & Rural Development, Vijayawada Division	He corroborates LW.3 in all aspects
7.	Signed Statement of Sri Potharlanka Rama Krishna S/o Koteswara Rao age 43 yrs, office Supdt., O/o EE, RWS & S, Project Division, Vijayawada. R/o.	It discloses **about Surprise Check conducted by ACB officials on**

(Contd.P-18)

	D.No.67-46/1, TF1, Nalluri vari Street, Near NSM Public, School, Patamata, Vijayawada	**11.01.2021 and the other things that happened in O/o EE, RWS Division, Vijayawada etc. facts**

any documents found to be relevant will be furnished during the enquiry.

B RAJSEKHAR
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

SECTION OFFICER

(Contd.P-19)

ANNEXURE-IV

ORAL EVIDENCE

The following oral evidence is available on record.

S No	Name and address of the witness	Gist of the statement
1.	Sri Kancherla Ambedkar, S/o K. Bhaskara Rao, 53 years, Assistant Audit Officer, O/o the Asst. Audit Officer, State Audit (MPP), Machilipatnam, Krishna District R/o F-6, Sangeeta Apartment, Near Babu Textiles, Gayatrinagar, Vijayawada- Cell No. 9959587067, (Mediator-I).	They speak about their presence as mediators and the things that happened during the Surprise Check in the O/o RWS & S, Gudivada Division, Krishna Dist, i.e., on 11.01.2021 etc. facts.
2.	Sri Pulapaka Vijaya Bhaskara Rao, S/o Ranga Rao, 54 years, Senior Auditor, O/o the Asst. Audit Officer, State Audit (MPP), Machilipatnam, Krishna District R/o D.No.11-154, behind TIME Hospital, Kanuru, Penmaluru Mandal, Vijayawada Cell No. 9440105325 (Mediator-II).	
3.	Sri D.Venkata Ramana S/o DVS Narayana, age 58 yrs, Superintendent Engineer, RWS & S, Vijayawada Circle, R/o Flat No.404-1, Jyothi Apartment, Ashramam street, opp: Akasavani, Labbipeta, Vijayawada Cell No. 9347843567. N/o Thammaiahpeta, Jalumuru (M), Srikakulam Dist.	He discloses that Smt. Merugu Sravanthi failure to maintain properly the Administrative Sanction Registers and not updated the Register for the years 2018-2019 and 2019-2020
4.	Sri Dhavaleswarapu Rama Linga Prasad S/o Veerabhadraiah, age 57 yrs, Executive Engineer, RWS & S (Projects) Division, Vijayawada, R/o Rythupeta, Nandigama, NTR Dist. Cell No. 9440147970.	He corroborates LW. 3 in all the procedural aspects and material aspects
5.	Sri Shaik Hussen Saheb S/o Masthan Saheb, age 53 yrs, Divisional Accounts officer (works) O/o Executive Engineer, Panchayath Raj & Rural Development, Vijayawada Division R/o Flat No. 404, Teja Grand Apartment, Housing Board Extension, Gunturu N/o	He corroborates LW. 3 in all the procedural aspects and material aspects

(Contd.P-20)

	Timmasamudram, Prakasam Dist. Cell No. 9948345990.	
6.	Sri Potharlanka Rama Krishna S/o Koteswara Rao age 43 yrs, office Supdt., O/o EE, RWS & S, Project Division, Vijayawada. R/o D.No.67-46/1, TF1, Nalluri Vari Street, Near NSM Public, School, Patamata, Vijayawada.	He was present in the O/o EE on 11.01.2021, while Surprise Check along with their office staff and speaks about verification of their office records by ACB officials
7.	Sri K. Happy Krupavandanam, Inspector-I, ACB, Vijayawada Range, Vijayawada	To speak to the facts about Surprise Check dated. 11-01-2021.
8.	Sri B.Srinivas, Dy. Supdt. of Police, ACB, Vijayawada Range, Vijayawada	To speak to the facts about Surprise Check dated. 11-01-2021.
9.	Sri P. Sarath Babu, Dy. Supdt. of Police, ACB, Vijayawada Range, Vijayawada.	To speak to the facts about Surprise Check dated. 11-01-2021 and submitting Surprise Check Report and DACs, etc., facts.

If any witness is found to be relevant will be produced during the enquiry.

B RAJSEKHAR
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

SECTION OFFICER